

Application No.: 09/147,398
Examiner: E. Cadugan, Art Unit 3722

Clean Copy of Proposed Amended Claims

1. (Twice Amended) A method for producing an embossing plate having a surface with at least one depression in the form of at least one line brought into the surface of the embossing plate, characterized in that the at least one line defines a limited partial area of the surface, an edge of the partial area defining a desired contour, and a tool track located within the desired contour being determined from the desired contour and a predetermined desired depth determining a penetration depth of an engraving tool, the engraving tool being controlled along said track such that a material of said partial area is removed within the desired contour at the predetermined desired depth.
8. (Amended) The method of claim 7, characterized in that the residual area is removed by controlling the engraving tool such that said tool removes a surface of the residual area in tracks which are similar or contour-parallel to the desired contour.
9. (Amended) The method of claim 7, characterized in that the residual area is removed by controlling the engraving tool such that a surface of the residual area is removed in a meander shape.
20. (Amended) The method of claim 1, characterized in that said plate is engraved with several engraving tools simultaneously.
24. (Twice Amended) An embossing or intaglio printing plate having a surface with at least one engraved depression in the form of a line, said at least one depression having flanks, a bottom, and a substructure engraved into said at least one depression, a width of said substructure being smaller than a width of the at least one depression, characterized in that the substructure is meander-shaped or extends at least in partial areas parallel to a direction of said at least one line.

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25. (Twice Amended) The embossing or intaglio printing plate of claim 24, characterized in that the substructure is present on the bottom of the at least one depression, on at least one of the flanks of the at least one depression, or on both the bottom and the at least one of the flanks of the at least one depression.

34. (Twice Amended) A method, comprising the step of using the embossing or intaglio printing plate of claim 24 as an original on which reproduction of additional embossing or intaglio printing plates is based.